

HOSTELS 75% LESS CARBON INTENSE THAN HOTELS, ACCORDING TO NEW RESEARCH

A new report released today by leading sustainability and compliance specialist, [Bureau Veritas](#), has found that hostels are approximately three-quarters less carbon intense (tCO₂e) than hotels – according to independent research and carbon footprinting data modelling conducted across a selection of European hotels and hostels.

Among the first-of-its-kind research within the tourism sector, this report was commissioned by Hostelworld, a leading global Online Travel Agent focused on the hostelling category. Bureau Veritas collected data from across European hostels totalling 27,509 beds, in order to calculate an average tCO₂e/bed. This data was benchmarked against the average emissions per assumed PAX in representative European hotel chains.

The report entitled '[Understanding The Carbon Impact Of Hostels vs Hotels](#)' supports the claim that hostels are the more climate-friendly accommodation choice compared with hotels, for increasingly environmentally conscious travellers.

The findings show that the carbon emissions per bed in hotels averages at 1.18 tCO₂e, compared with 0.30 tCO₂e in the hostels surveyed as part of the study. The carbon dioxide equivalent of direct and indirect emissions of the hostels and hotels studied (namely Scope 1 and Scope 2) are measured in metric tons of CO₂e. Bureau Veritas examined data from 2019 to 2021, with 2019 figures represented as the benchmark given capacity constraints during ongoing periods of Covid-19 travel restrictions in 2020 and 2021.

Commenting on the findings, **Gary Morrison, CEO, Hostelworld**, adds: “Travellers are increasingly environmentally conscious, constantly looking for ways to minimise their carbon footprint while visiting new destinations. 82% of Hostelworld customers believe hostels are more sustainable than any other type of accommodation with 53% saying that sustainability plays a role in deciding where they will travel and how they will get there.

This research report confirms that hostels represent a more sustainable accommodation type in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, as well as providing the means to meet other people and share unique experiences”.

David Murray, Business Unit Manager - Sustainability, Bureau Veritas, comments: “In the current climate it is becoming increasingly valuable to start understanding ways to make more sustainable tourism choices. In order to compare the carbon emissions of different types of accommodation, Bureau Veritas collected and examined data from a sample of hostels that use Hostelworld as an online travel agent along with publicly available information released by selected hotel chains.

Using the available information, we have calculated an average tCO₂e for hotels and hostels in Europe in order to directly compare the carbon intensity of the two types of accommodation. The results of this study support the claim that on average hostels are up to 75% less carbon intensive than hotels.”

Hostelworld is committed to maintaining its carbon neutrality status and has set an absolute emissions reduction target to reduce its scope 1 and 2 emissions by 42% by 2030, complying with science-based target requirements outlined for small and medium enterprises. The organisation publicly reports on its carbon emissions in its annual reports and will continue to work with independent organisations to verify its progress.

Bureau Veritas has vast experience and technical expertise in helping some of the world's largest organisations improve their sustainability performance in several sectors. As part of the business' [Greenline services](#), they undertake a variety of research, measurement, modelling and data analysis services to support businesses in identifying their key areas of focus around sustainability, and ensure compliance with ESG strategies and sustainability regulation.

[Click here](#) to read 'Understanding The Carbon Impact Of Hotels vs Hostels'.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

- 'Per bed' is per an assumed PAX of hotel rooms as a range of 1.6-2.4 and an assumed PAX of hostel rooms as 3.6, this was estimated by Hostelworld.
- Calculations completed by Bureau Veritas are based on a sample of hotels and hostels in Europe only, with comparisons calculated based on data that is available in the public domain for hotel groups.
- 2019 was selected as the benchmark year due to capacity reductions throughout 2020 and 2021 with Covid-19 travel restrictions globally.

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About Bureau Veritas

Bureau Veritas is a world leader in laboratory testing, inspection and certification services. Created in 1828, the Group has more than 80,000 employees located in more than 1,600 offices and laboratories around the globe. Bureau Veritas helps its 400,000 clients improve their performance by offering services and innovative solutions in order to ensure that their assets, products, infrastructure and processes meet standards and regulations in terms of quality, health and safety, environmental protection and social responsibility. Bureau Veritas is listed on Euronext Paris and belongs to the Next 20 index. Compartment A, ISIN code FR 0006174348, stock symbol: BVI. For more information, visit www.bureauveritas.com.

About Hostelworld Group

Hostelworld Group is a leading Online Travel Agent focused on the hostelling category, with a well-known trusted brand, 13.7 million reviews and a loyal customer base built up over 22

years. Our core business provides our customers with hostel accommodation options and hostel focused small group adventure tour products (Roamies) in over 180 countries worldwide via our website and native app platforms in 19 languages. In parallel with helping millions of hostel focused travellers Meet The World®, we are also committed to building a better world in everything we do. In particular, we are increasing our focus on improving the sustainability of the hostelling industry, through our active involvement in the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative (GTPI), led by the UN Environment Programme and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO); our membership of the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC); and our recent partnership with the South Pole to offset all our greenhouse gas emissions in 2021.

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